

**PRESS RELEASE**

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**SCHOOLCRAFT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL  
Celebrates National Laboratory Week  
April 18 - 24, 2004**

**Manistique, MI - April, 2004**

April 18, 2004 will mark the 29th anniversary of National Medical Laboratory Week - NMLW.

Schoolcraft Memorial's full-service Laboratory team are members of one of the largest industries in the United States. The dedicated efforts of laboratory professionals often go unnoticed.

Bob Sands, Director of Schoolcraft Memorial's Lab says, "We are currently doing over 200,000 tests per year covering Hematology, Chemistry, Blood Bank, Serology, Microbiology and Urinalysis."

Other laboratory staff includes Marshall Bradley, Mary Young, Tina Laramie, Kerri MacPhail, Mindy Asp, Sharon Boyd, Hank Richey, Marilyn Pennington, Amy Gould Mary Milavec and Marilyn Heet who boast a combined 104 years of service. "Our staff are dedicated professionals" says Sands, "we are the only lab testing provider in Schoolcraft County. We service all Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital Physicians, the Tribal Health center, Curtis and Germfask Clinics and we also provide testing for physicians from outside the area needing work done on local patients.

The American Society for Clinical Pathology recently reported by the year 2010 a total of 13,200 new medical technologists would be needed to meet the demand for laboratory services as the US population ages. However, the average number of graduates from accredited programs is less than 5,000 a year, indicating an annual shortage of 8,200 qualified personnel.

"This profession is rewarding" Sands went on to say. "We would happily speak to any High School Students contemplating a career as a medical technologist. What we offer is an invaluable service. We contribute daily to saving lives."

Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital's Laboratory is currently undergoing a small renovation project that will enable patients to go directly to the lab without having to register elsewhere.

As of April 5th, 2004 the new hours of operation for Lab will be Monday through Friday 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., with an on-call tech covering non-staffed hours and weekends from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

In celebration of lab week, various staff activities have been planned in addition to an Open House to the public on Tuesday, April 20, 2004, where they can register to win a 30 day free membership to the Fitness Center.